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2005 Cranberry Production Up 5 Percent

The forecast for the 2005 cranberry crop is 6.49 million barrels, up 5 percent from both 2004 and 2003. Production is forecast to be up in New Jersey, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin, and down in Massachusetts.

Production in Wisconsin is forecast at 3.67 million barrels, 11 percent above 2004 and 2 percent above 2003. Minimal winter damage and good weather during fruit set have created the potential for above average yields. Recent hot, dry weather has many producers irrigating on a regular basis. The season is on a normal pace with no major pest problems reported.

The Massachusetts crop is forecast at 1.70 million barrels, down 6 percent from 2004 but 21 percent above 2003. Heavy winter snowfall damaged vines in some areas. A rainy May delayed bloom and slowed development of the crop. The crop was rated in good condition in early July, but below average rainfall that month had growers concerned about berry sizing. Growers were irrigating where available.

The Oregon crop is forecast at 515,000 barrels, 4 percent above last year and 1 percent above 2003. A warm winter and cool spring caused early season pest and weed problems for some producers. The cool, wet spring also affected pollination and slowed crop development. However, conditions have generally improved since then and an average to good sized crop is expected.

New Jersey expects a crop of 434,000 barrels, up 8 percent from 2004 but 10 percent below 2003. Growers reported an average to heavy bloom, with fruit set and fruit size about normal. No significant weather damage is reported.

The Washington crop is forecast at 175,000 barrels, 3 percent above last year but 8 percent below 2003. A warm spring provided an early and extended bloom. Crop development is running about two weeks ahead of average with a good set on the vines. Favorable weather and few pest problems are reported.

**Cranberries: Production by State and United States,
2003-2004 and Forecasted 2005¹**

State	Total Production		
	2003	2004	2005
	<i>Barrels</i>	<i>Barrels</i>	<i>Barrels</i>
MA	1,406,000	1,808,000	1,700,000
NJ	480,000	402,000	434,000
OR	510,000	495,000	515,000
WA	190,000	170,000	175,000
WI	3,607,000	3,295,000	3,670,000
US	6,193,000	6,170,000	6,494,000

¹ A barrel weighs 100 lbs.

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